

### **LISTING OF CLAIMS**

The Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application. Deleted matter is indicated by strikethrough or double brackets, and added matter is indicated by underlining.

#### **Claims**

1. (Previously presented) A method for surface modification of oxide ceramics, comprising the steps of:  
doping a glass component to a surface of oxide ceramics; and  
carrying out heat treatment for the oxide ceramics and the glass component at 1000-1700° C for several seconds to several hours.
2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the glass component has a thermal expansion coefficient smaller than the oxide ceramics.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the glass component is selected from a group consisting of MgO, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and SiO<sub>2</sub> as principal components.
4. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the oxide ceramics are alumina ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1500° C for 5-300 minutes.

5. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the oxide ceramics are alumina ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1500° C for 5-300 minutes.
6. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the oxide ceramics are alumina ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1500° C for 5-300 minutes.
7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the oxide ceramics are zirconia ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1450° C for 5-300 minutes.
8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the oxide ceramics are zirconia ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1450° C for 5-300 minutes.
9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the oxide ceramics are zirconia ceramics, and subject to heat treatment at a temperature of 1450° C for 5-300 minutes.
10. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 1.
11. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 2.

12. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 3.

13. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 4.

14. (Withdrawn) Oxide ceramics of which surface is modified according to a method as claimed in claim 5.